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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) CONFIDENTIAL REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from Prenzlau

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT mid-April to 18 May 1951

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 19 June 1951

REFERENCES 25X1A

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Since mid-April 1951, the troops from the barracks installations on both sides of Berlinerstrasse in Prenzlau (N 54/Q 14) have been at the Templin training area. Only a rear detail of two officers and some men remained behind in the Berlinerstrasse installations. \*

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2. that four units, allegedly regiments, were stationed in the installations. These units were: Unit Tsiich with tanks, AT guns, heavy mortars, personnel carriers and 37-mm AA guns which was stationed north of Berlinerstrasse; and Tank Unit Kuzmin and two other units with 76-mm guns, heavy mortars and rail-type rocket launchers which were stationed south of Berlinerstrasse. \*\*

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3. Captain Mikhail Semenov, supply of Unit Kuzmin, left for the troop training ground tank firing exercise Prenzlaue Oede, during which a farmer's barn about 1.5 km northwest of Koopersdorf was set on fire by shells. The officer in charge, a major, was sentenced to pay 20,000 DM-East for the damage. Thereupon, the officers of Unit Kuzmin decided to pay the indemnity jointly, with every officer contributing 300 DM-East. Source therefore concluded that there were 66 or 67 officers in the unit. \*\*

25X1A Comment. The report confirms the movement of components of the 25th Tank Div from Prenzlau to the Templin troop training grounds in mid-April 1951. See MGL-13014

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\*\* The 175th Tank Regt and the 83d Gds Hv Tank SP Regt of the 25th Tank Div, and the 296th Gds AT Arty Regt of the 11th Gds AT Arty Brig of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army have to date been carried in the barracks installations on both sides of Berlinerstrasse. According to its equipment, Unit Tsiich may be a motorized rifle regiment of the 25th Tank Div, but this possibility is ruled out since no soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets have ever been reported from Prenzlau. Thus, the probability remains that Unit Tsiich is the 175th Tank Regt. Unit Kuzmin can therefore be only the 83d Gds Hv Tank SP Regt. The number of officers mentioned in paragraph 3 approximately corresponds to the officer strength of such a regiment. The unit equipped with artillery pieces is believed to be the 296th Gds AT Arty Regt. The location of a rocket launcher unit in Prenzlau, which could only be the unidentified rocket launcher battalion of the 25th Tank Div, is doubted because no rocket launchers have ever been observed in Prenzlau. A Colonel Kuzmin was previously identified by the same source as lieutenant colonel and supply officer in Prenzlau. Captain M. Semenov was previously reported to be a regional supply officer in Prenzlau. CONFIDENTIAL

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